15 March, 2016

Principal Message

I have been very pleased to see two week’s of excellence at Cambridge Gardens PS since our last newsletter.

Staffing

Last Friday was Mrs Ptolemy’s last day at school before commencing maternity leave. We wish Mrs Ptolemy all the best in this exciting time! We will keep you up to date on the baby’s arrival. We look forward to having Mrs Ptolemy return from her maternity leave in late October. Mrs Mel Sayle will be replacing Mrs Ptolemy in her absence.

Cross Country-FRIDAY MARCH 18

This Friday during our middle session all students who are 8 years and older will be undertaking our school cross country. As you know our course runs out through the back gate and parents have been issued with a permission note to allow students to participate in this activity. Please ensure your child has returned this note to the school (see below). It will be reissued today with the newsletter. Parents are welcome to attend on the day to cheer on our talented runners. If the weather is looking a little questionable please check the school FACEBOOK page for updates.

Harmony Day- MONDAY MARCH 21

A big thank you to Mrs Todd for all her work in getting our school Harmony Day organised. As a school we are always most excited to be part of this activity promoting inclusivity and acceptance in our school community. Get those orange clothes out!

P&C MEETING TUESDAY MARCH 22

Please ensure you come along to our next P&C meeting to discuss our school activities and how you can participate in your child’s education and your school. At this meeting, Ms Hayley moore, class teacher of Magellan will be attending to talk about her class, our Assistant Principal Mrs Alison Patrick and our Instructional Leader, Mr Denis Morgan will also be in attendance to answer any questions.

Targeting Early Numeracy Initiative

Our K-3 teachers have been participating in professional learning around the Targeting Early Numeracy initiative. As you know, our wonderful Instructional Leader, Mr Morgan is leading our staff through this innovative program that is leading to a change in teacher practice in our classrooms in numeracy. I commend our teachers on their commitment to their ongoing learning in this area. Our staff will be released for full day training sessions in this. Look for the development of our students’ skills in this area.

Quality Literacy Teaching K-2

Our two Assistant Principals with responsibility for our K-2 classes, Mrs Patrick and Mr Attard are undertaking a very rigorous training in literacy throughout Semester 1. This training will provide them with knowledge and skills around current best practice in literacy teaching that they can share with their teams. These two teachers will be attending a number of professional learning days in relation to this learning.

Have a great two weeks!

Adam Wynn
Principal
Cross Country

The annual school cross country carnival is on this Friday the 18th of March. Students who are turning 8 this year or older will be participating in the carnival.

The carnival will begin at 11.30 with all students and spectators to gather on the top grass area. Students may run in their house colours and are encouraged to bring something to sit on, plenty to drink and a hat.

Students 8-10 years complete a 2km course and students 11-13 years complete a 3 km course.

Please ensure that your child has returned the permission note for this carnival as it allows the staff to take the children out to walk the course on Thursday and participate fully on Friday.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Nelson and Miss Allan

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Cross Country Permission Slip

I give permission for my child ___________________________ of class __________________ to participate in the Cross Country Carnival on Friday 18th March 2016 and to walk the course on Thursday, 17th March 2016. I understand that my child will be leaving the school grounds to participate in these activities under the supervision of Cambridge Gardens Public School staff.

Signed: ___________________________ Date: ____________

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is held every year on 21 March to coincide with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The message of Harmony Day is everyone belongs. It’s a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. ‘Our diversity is our strength’ is the 2016 theme for Harmony Day.

Did you know that:

- around 45 per cent of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was
- 85 per cent of Australians agree multiculturalism has been good for Australia

- apart from English the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, Spanish and Hindi
- more than 60 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia
- 92 per cent of Australians feel a great sense of belonging to our country?

Students at Cambridge Gardens are encouraged to wear orange on the day. Classes will be participating in a variety of activities to broaden their understanding.

R.Todd

Easter Fun Day – 24th March

As part of our Easter celebrations students K-2 will be participating in an Easter Hat Parade. Students in Years 3 – 6 will be making a themed Easter egg display for our Eggstravaganza. Students are asked to prepare their hat or themed egg displays at home.

On Thursday, 24th March, 2016 parents are invited to view the egg displays from 9.15 – 10.00 a.m. in the library. Parents are then invited to attend the hat parade under the COLA on the multipurpose court at 10.10 a.m. Please bring a folding chair.

Year 6 will be holding a ‘Easter Cupcake’ stall for fundraising. Tea, coffee and cupcakes will be for sale outside the library from 9.15 – 10.00 for parents. Cupcakes will also be for sale after the parade for all students to purchase. Please bring $2 for some yummy morning tea!

Students with Eggstravaganza displays are asked to bring them to the library between 8.40 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 23rd March. Please make sure that your name and class is clearly marked on the FRONT of your display.

Thank you
Mrs Thompson, Mrs Stoeckl, Mr Nicholls, Mr McMaster and Mr Kristof.
Easter Egg Donation for Edinglassie Lodge

This year, our Stage 3 students will be making special Easter cards to give to the residents at Edinglassie Lodge nursing home in Penrith. This is a great opportunity for our students to practice many of our school values. Along with the cards we were hoping to give the residents Easter eggs. If you family is able, chocolate egg donations for this visit would be greatly appreciated! Your child can drop them off at the front office as they arrive at school. Our school leaders will be presenting their cards and Easter eggs on Tuesday, 22nd March to the residents at Edinglassie Lodge.

C. Hetherington

Reminders

Year 6 – High School Expression of Interest.
All Year 6 students need to return this form by Wednesday, 16th March.

Year 6 T-Shirts
Orders and payment for Year 6 T-shirts are due by Friday, 18th March.

Cross Country Permission Notes - Cross Country permission notes need to be returned to school by Thursday, 17th March.

Kindergarten Dance Program - Our Kindergarten dance program for all students is going fantastically. Our kids are really enjoying the youth and enthusiasm of Miss Fry. Please ensure you have made your $10 payment to the school asap.

School Magazine - Our year 3-6 students love to receive their monthly edition of the School Magazine. At only $1.20 an issue, it is an absolute bargain for quality literature and reading. We are ready to roll out the March edition so please send in your $12 for the year!

University of NSW Competitions - FINAL CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES AND PAYMENTS IS MONDAY, 23rd March, 2016. Payment to be made by direct deposit to Cambridge Gardens Public School – Westpac – BSB 032001 – Account 163318.

Students may enter as many or as few competitions as they wish

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Yrs 2-6</td>
<td>Tues, 31st May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Yrs 3-6</td>
<td>Wed, 15th June</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Yrs 3-6</td>
<td>Tues, 14th June</td>
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<td>Maths</td>
<td>Yrs 2-6</td>
<td>Tues, 16th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Yrs 3-6</td>
<td>Tues, 17th May</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Jo Austine

From the Library

Welcome to the Library in 2016.

Book Club

Thank you for your support with purchases through Bookclub. Purchasing a book of interest for your child is a great way to develop a love of reading. Last year, many resources were obtained for students in our school from Book Club rewards. The school receives these rewards through your Book Club purchases.

Borrowing

Please remind your children to bring their library bags (or a pillowcase) on their class library day. Children must return (or renew) their borrowed books before they can borrow new ones.

Premier’s Reading Challenge.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge begins this week and finishes on 19th August. A note will be going home explaining the process of this challenge.

All children are encouraged to participate in the challenge. It is a great way for your child to be exposed to good literature and enjoy reading for pleasure.

I look forward to seeing all children borrowing from the Library in the coming weeks!

Mrs Rose Antonelli
Teacher Librarian
Gardening Club 2016

Would your child like to join the Gardening Club? Our aim is to improve and help maintain our school environment. Members of the Gardening Club participate in activities such as planting, watering, weeding and mulching.

This term the Gardening Club will operate between 8.40 and 9.05 on Tuesday mornings. Children will be supervised and assisted in their gardening activities by a teacher. It would be wonderful if the children could bring along their own pair of gardening gloves.

Over the years we have had several parents join in and enjoy gardening alongside their children. Any parents who would like to join in the fun are most welcome.

If your child is interested in joining our Gardening Club, please fill in the details below and return to the office.

Julie Cheetham
Gardening Club Coordinator

Gardening Club 2016 – Permission Note

Name ___________________________

Class __________________________

Signed (Parent/Caregiver) _________________________

Date: _______________________

CHANGE OF DETAILS

To ensure that our records contain the correct information for students please complete the form below if you have changed your address, contact phone numbers or email address.

Student/s Name: ___________________________

Class: __________________________

New address: ___________________________

Email: ___________________________

Phone Numbers: ___________________________

Direct Deposits to school account:

When making direct deposits to the school account for excursion and activities please ensure that you include your child’s name and a description of excursion.

e.g. J. Smith Carnival Westpac – BSB 032001 Account No. 163318. All canteen and P&C activities need to be paid in cash. No direct deposits to the school account should be made.

All payments and permission notes need to be handed in at the office.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions regarding payments please contact the office.
NOTICE OF MEETING

A General Meeting of the Cambridge Gardens Public School P&C Association will be held on TUESDAY 22nd March at 7.00pm in the Library. All parents, guardians, grandparents and carers are welcome.

SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM – EVERY FRIDAY

Our school participates in the Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program to help develop important savings skills. School banking is EVERY Friday. Make sure you bring your bank-book STRAIGHT TO THE OFFICE and place it in the money slot in the office. For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a Dollarmites token. So start collecting your tokens as it will now be a lot easier and faster to get your 10 tokens to redeem your Dollarmites rewards. This year’s rewards are based on the Australian Outback theme.

Taking part in School Banking is easy. If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in on school banking days using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! Alternatively, if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online.

Happy Banking ☺
Melissa Mackenzie & Nicky Hibbs

2016 HELPERS

Can’t make regular meetings but still willing to lend a hand. Please fill in the slip provided and return it to the office or send us an email cambridgegardenspublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au. We will add you to our Database and contact you when we have something on. We can always do with extra helpers at the school disco, Election Day BBQ, Christmas picnic and other events that the P&C run through the year.

Helping Hand Database

I, __________________________, may be available to help with P & C Association events throughout 2016. Please contact me on ph __________________ or via email at _______________________________

Signed ___________________________________

Many Thanks,
Leanne Reed (President)